GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:727
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
Suresh Shri Doddaalahalli Kempegowda

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the rampant corruption prevalent in health care system i.e. hospitals and dispensaries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to check corruption and ensure quality medicines and medical treatment available for poor patients at Government hospitals particularly in rural areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) & (b): India Corruption Study, 2008, conducted by Transparency International India, has made obse- rvations about the corruption in the health care facilities. The study, which especially focussed on the Below Poverty Line (BPL) households, observed that, 15 per cent of the total BPL households reported having faced corruption in accessing the health care services.

(c) & (d): Public Health being a state subject, the primary responsibility of ensuring quality medicines and medical treatment to the population in public health facilities lie with the State Governments. However, under the National Health Mission (NHM), financial support is provided to the States/UTs for strengthening their healthcare delivery system inc- luding for provision of quality healthcare services and free drugs to those who access public health facilities, based on requirements posed by States/ UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans. Support is also provided to States under NHM to put in place quality assurance mechanisms and set up effective grievance redressal mechanisms.

The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana under the Ministry of Labour and Employment provides free and cashless treatment to BPL and certain specified categories upto Rs.30,000 in empanelled public and private health facilities.